

# Carlton Complex Wildfire Impact



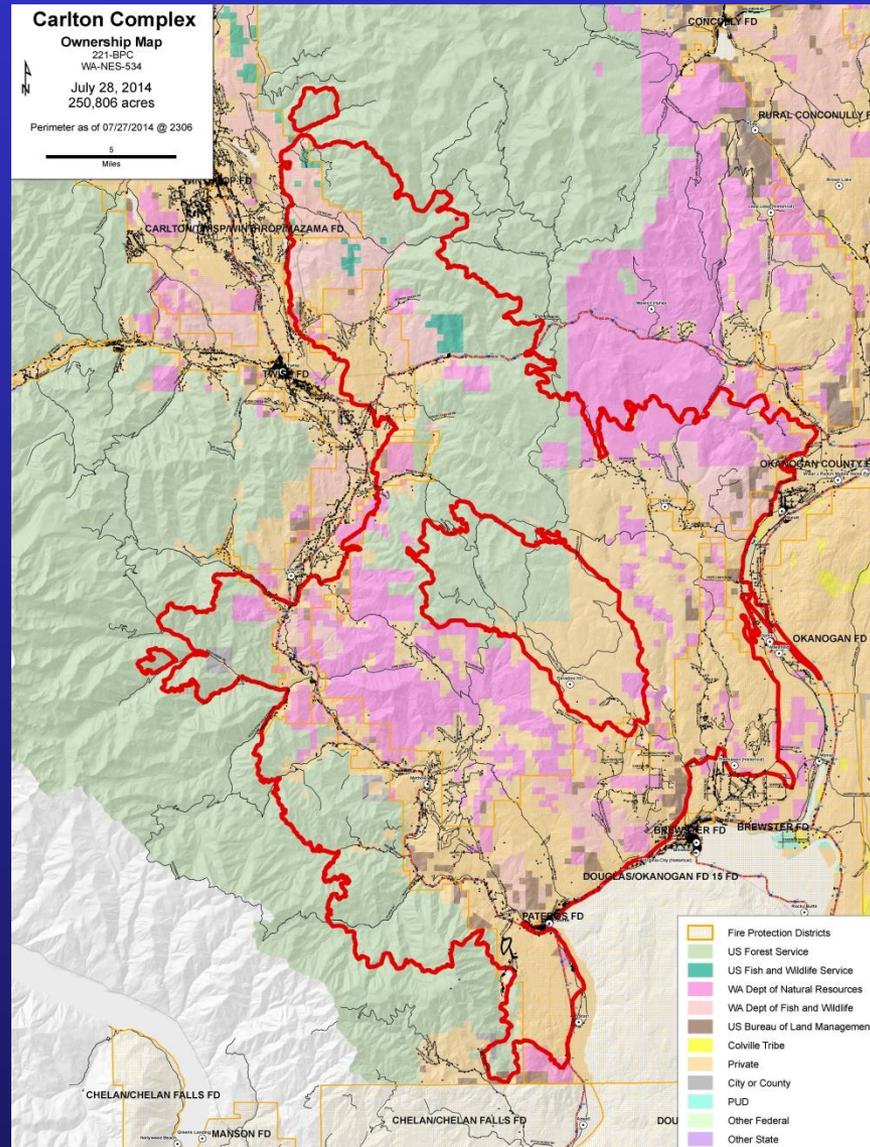
# Outline

- Area Affected
- Containment Efforts
- Fire Impact
  - Wildlife
  - WDFW Lands
- Outreach
- Next Steps

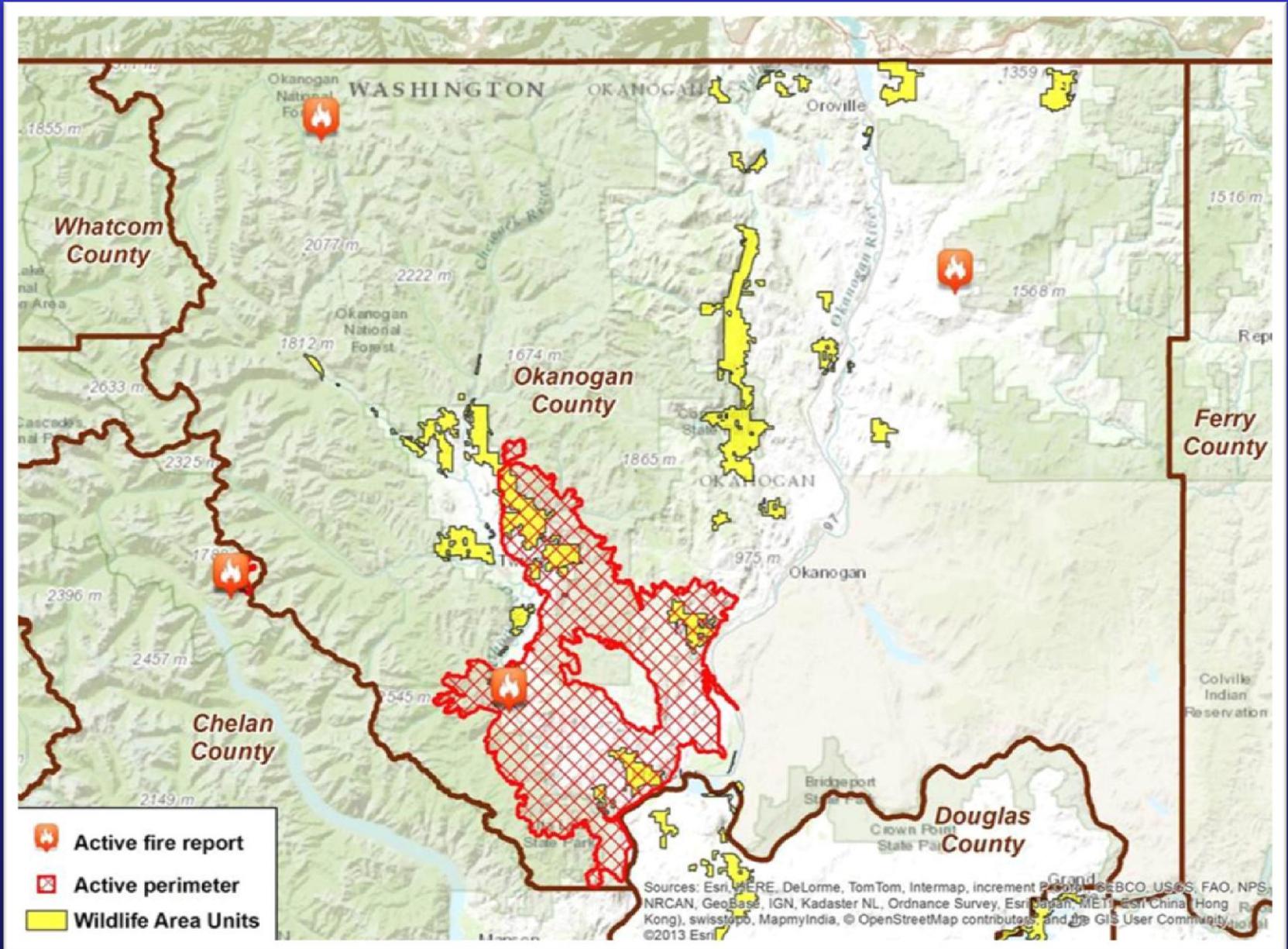




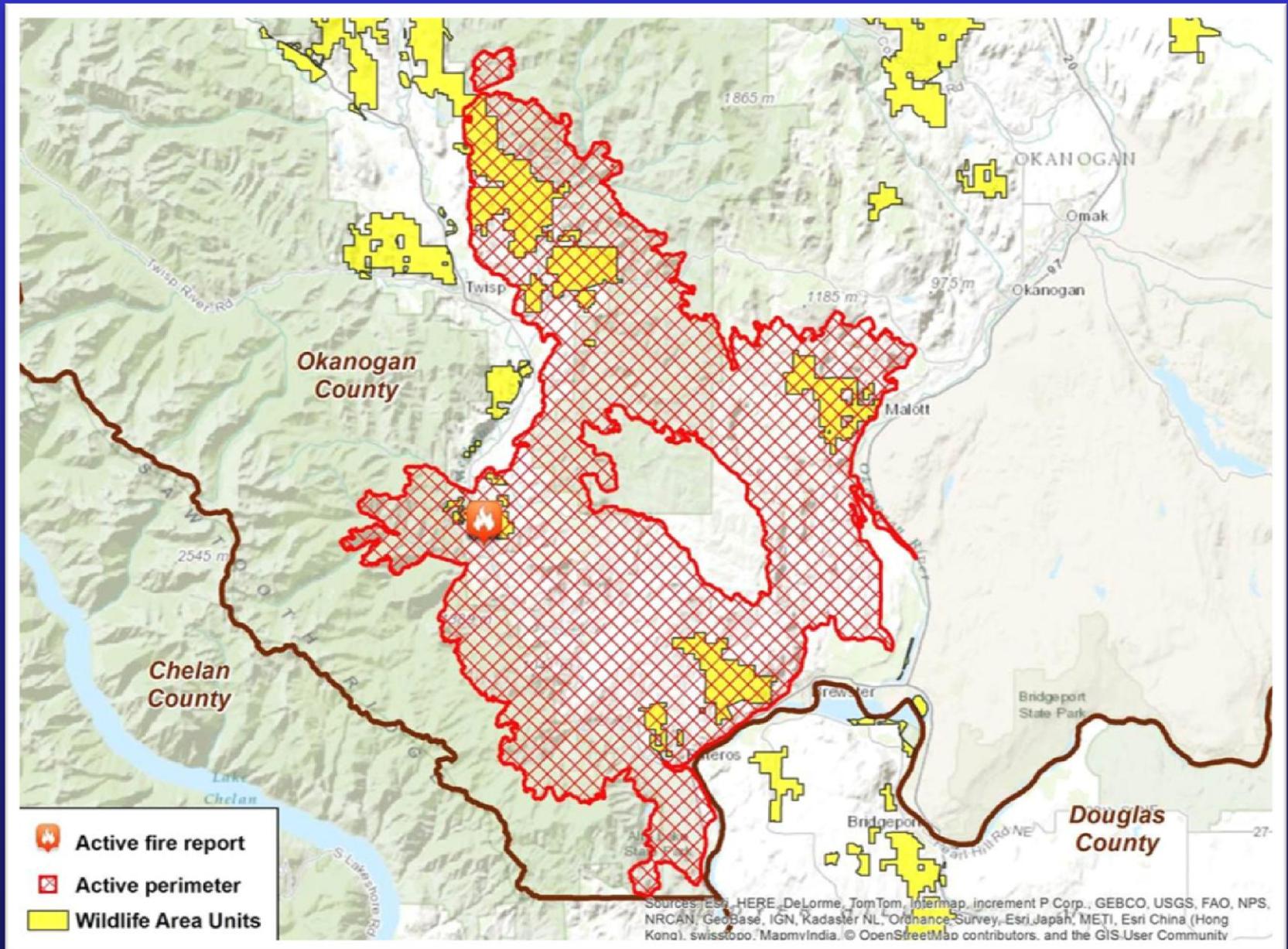
# Carlton Complex – Ownership/Jurisdiction

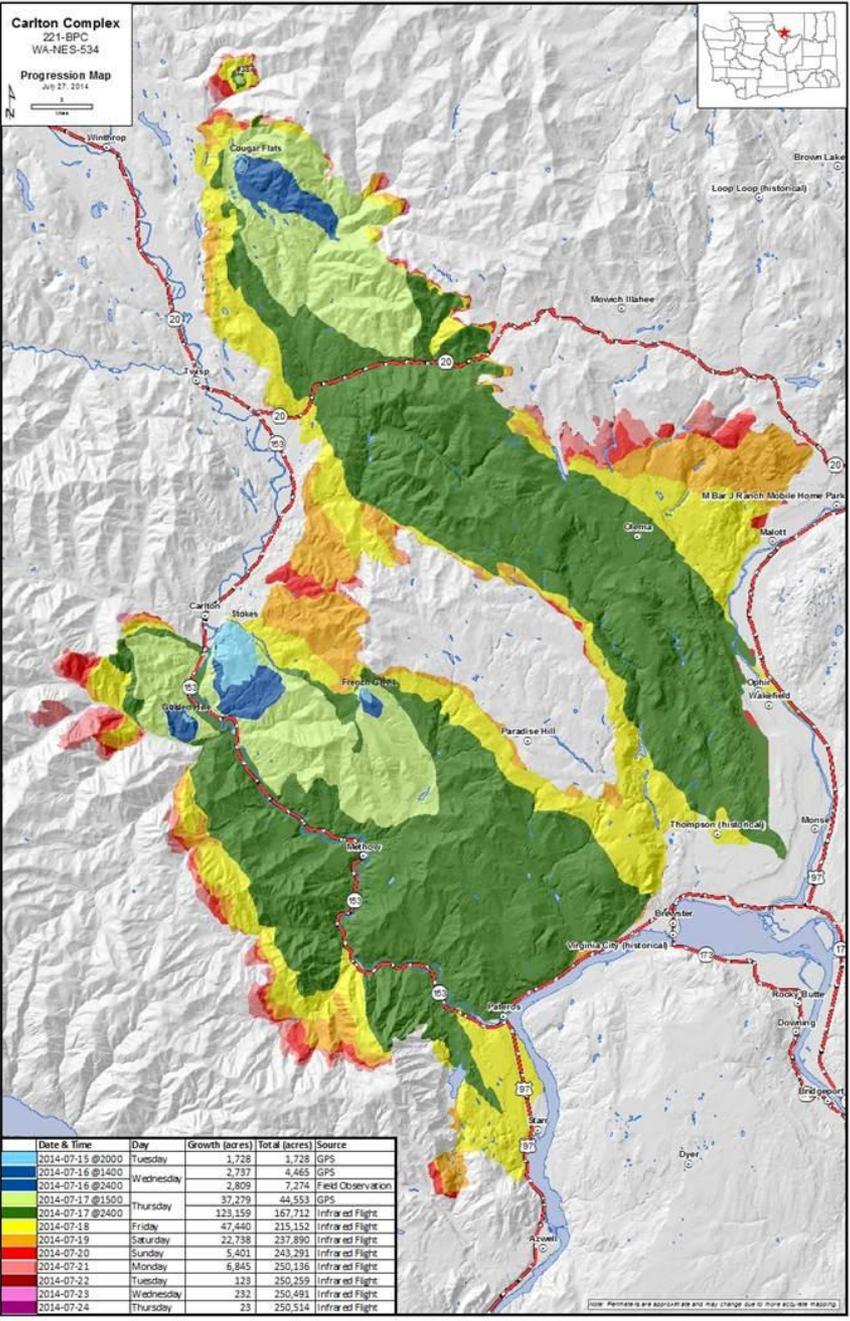


# Carlton Wildfire impacts on WDFW



# Carlton Fire Perimeter and WDFW Lands





# Carlton Complex Fire Progression

July 15: 2:00 PM – 1,728 ac

July 16: Midnight – 7,274 ac

July 17: 3:00 PM – 44,553 ac

July 18: Friday – 215,152 ac

July 19: Saturday – 237,890 ac

July 20: Sunday – 243,291 ac

July 21 to July 24 – 250,514 ac

3.8 acres burned per second in 9 hour period (July 17)



## Carlton Complex Fire Back Burn Near the Methow Headquarters



# Containment Efforts



Sinlahekin Wildlife Area prescribed burn crew conduct burn-out operations - Cougar Flats wildfire

## Containment crews - Indian Dan Canyon



## Wildland firefighters staged and ready - Methow Wildlife Area



- Creating fuel break - Methow Wildlife Area
- Cougar Flats fire growing in the background

# Indian Dan Canyon – July 17







# WDFW Fire Impacts



# Overall Fire Impacts

Largest wildfire in state history at 250,514 acres

- 300 homes and other structures lost
- Loss of livestock and wildlife



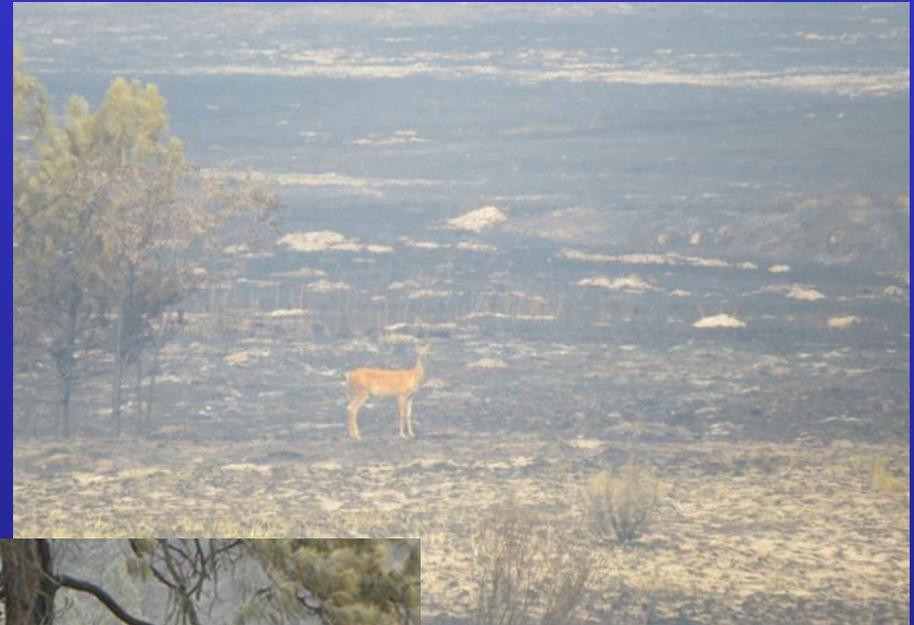
# Wildlife Impacts – Rich Beausoleil & Cinder



Photo: Don Seabrook

# Wildlife Impacts

- Resident Mule Deer
- Migratory Mule Deer
- Carrying Capacity has Been Reduced

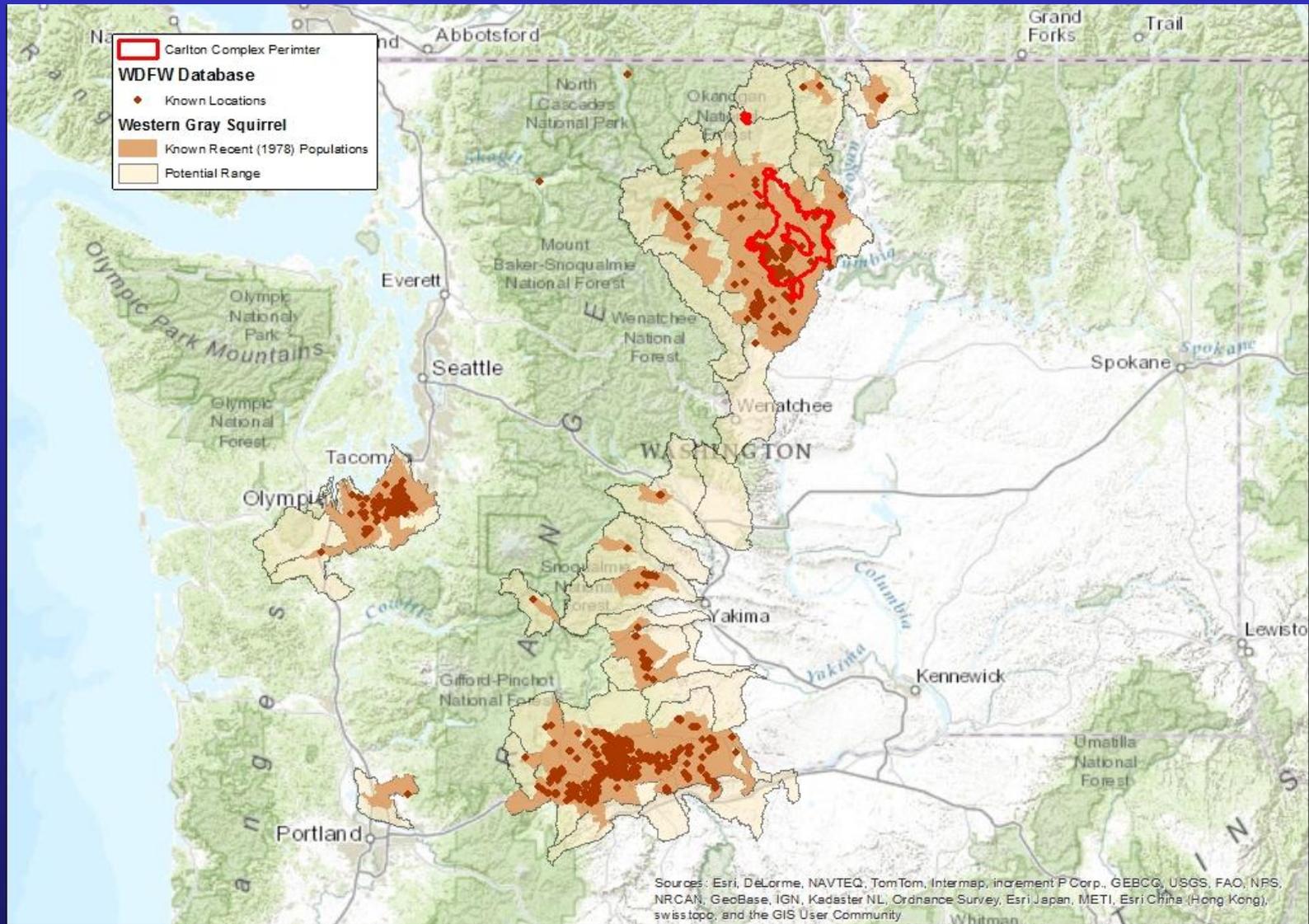


# Wildlife Impacts

- Approximately 100,000 acres of deer winter range burned
- Burned area supports 10,000+ mule deer
- Too early to assess all the impacts to the shrub forage base; Fire Severity Map in development



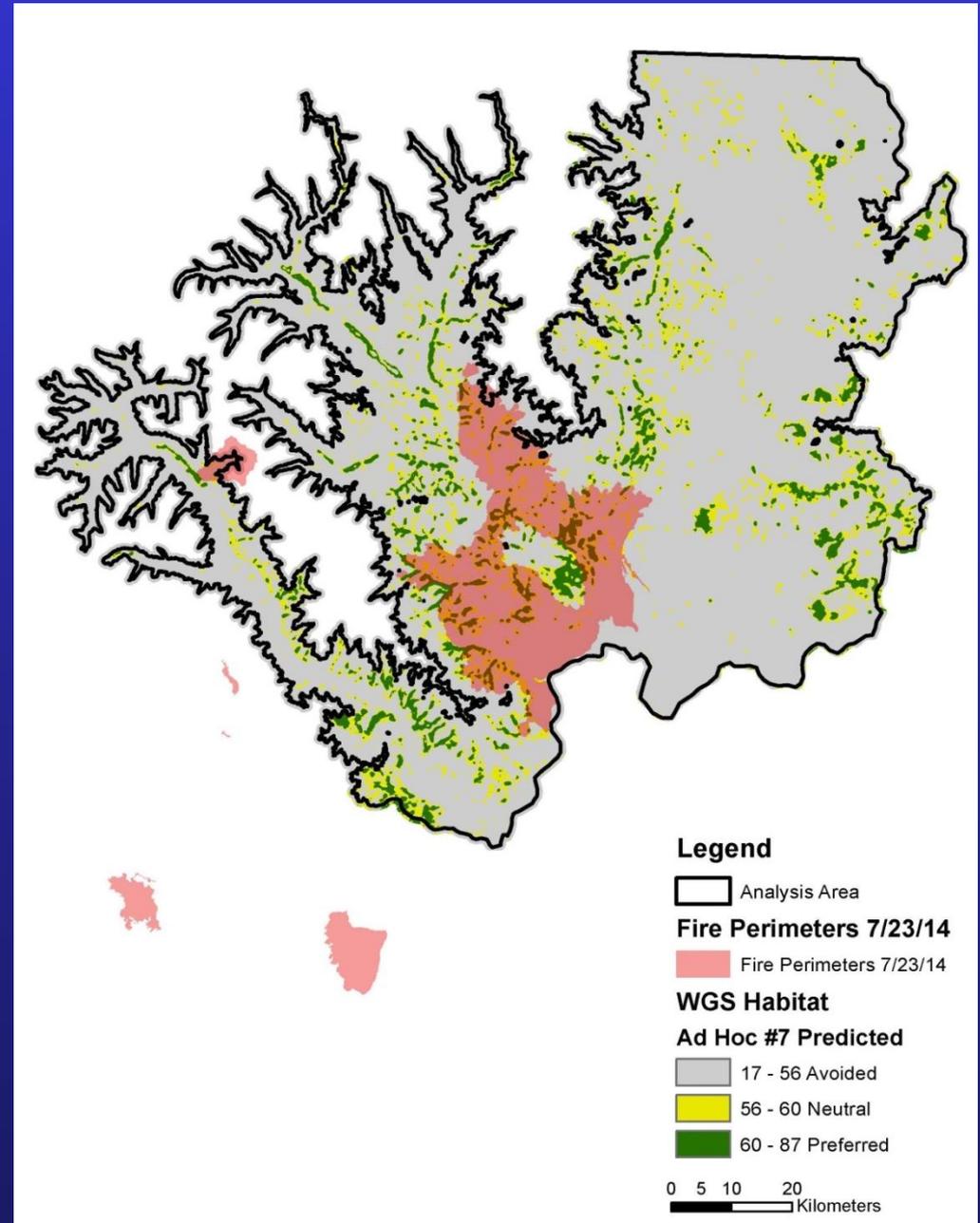
# State-wide Western Gray Squirrel (WGS) Range Carlton Fire Overlay



# Wildlife Impacts

## Carlton Complex WGS Range Preliminary Review

- Temperatures degraded suitability or rendered uninhabitable for 1+ yrs
- Conduct complete analysis late summer



# Wildlife Conflict Impact

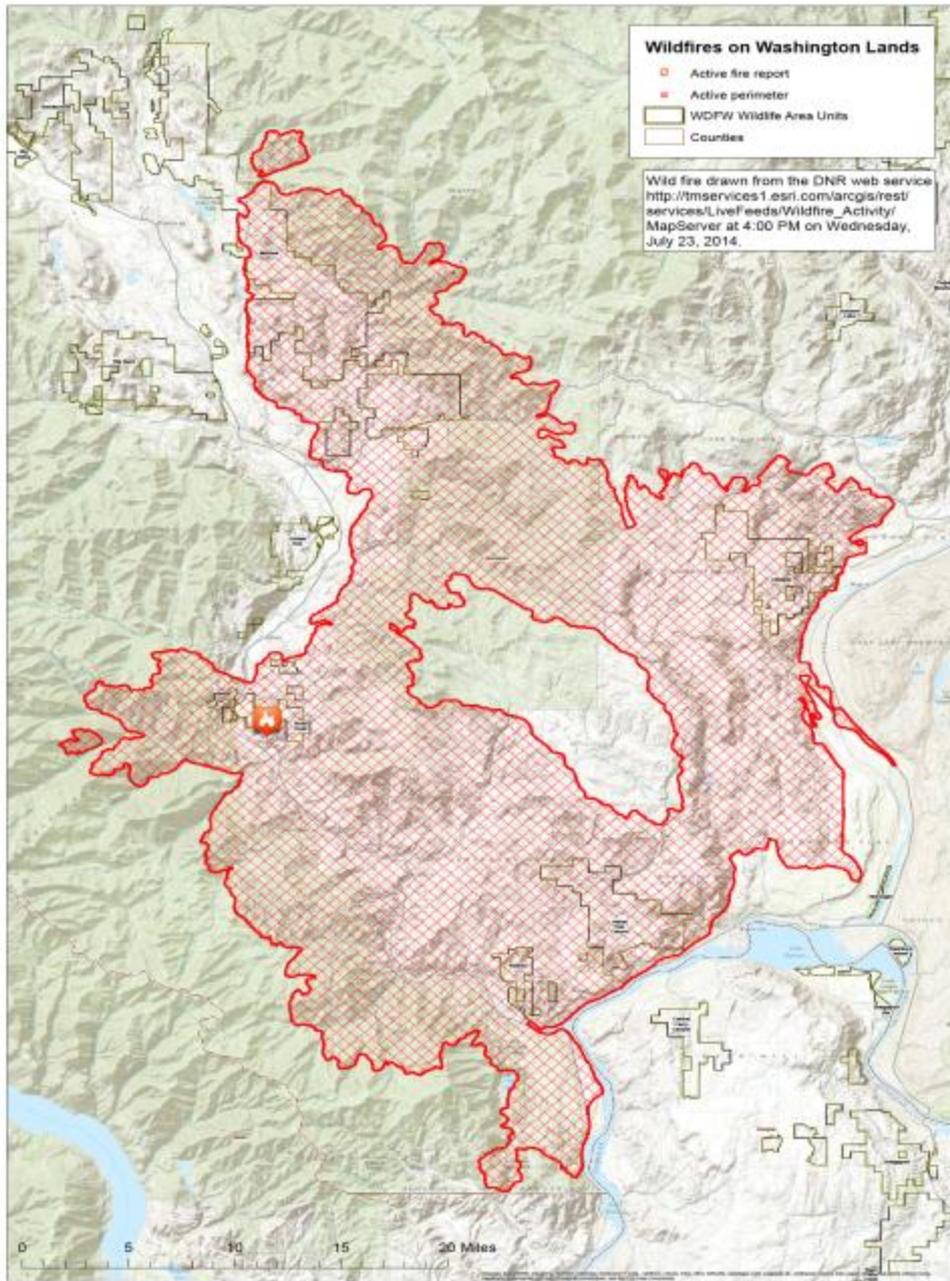
## Mule Deer and Orchards

- Drift and Orchard Fence Destroyed (100+ miles)



# Wildlife Area Impact

- 24,000 Acres Burned
- Grazing Lessees Impacted
- Timber Loss
- Fence Loss
- Corral and other Infrastructure loss



# Outreach

- WDFW Webpage dedicated to Carlton Complex Fire
  - Information for Hunters
  - Winter Feeding
  - Wildlife Conflict
  - Grazing Lessees
  - Forest Management
  - Habitat Restoration
- News Release: 8/7/14
- Weekly Wildlife Report on Region 2
- Mtg with Cattlemen: 7/25/14
- Okanogan Co CD: 8/13/14
  - Habitat Conditions/Observations
  - Activities

# Next Steps -Wildlife

## Mule Deer Management

- Fire Severity Map and Overlay with Winter Range
- Increased antlerless harvest to reduce population (Youth/Senior/Disabled)
- Possible emergency feeding of deer



# Next Steps -Wildlife

- WGS assessment
  - Complete analysis - loss to range and population
- Conflict
  - Reduce conflict between agriculturalist & deer



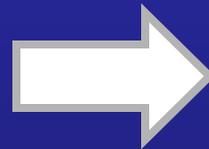
# Next Steps - Wildlife Areas

- Fence Replacement
- Habitat Restoration
- Timber Restoration and Management
- Alternative Grazing Pastures for Lessees



# Next Steps - Wildlife Areas

## Forest Restoration: Where Feasible



# Next Steps - Wildlife Areas

Develop Plans to Remove Hazard Trees Near High Use Areas: Roads, Camp Sites, etc.



# Next Steps - Wildlife Areas

Protect Roads and Other Infrastructure That are Vulnerable to Increased Erosion



# Next Steps - Wildlife Areas Habitat Restoration



# Questions

